



# STATE OF IDAHO

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DIRK KEMPTHORNE  
*Governor*

PATRICK A. TAKASUGI  
*Director*

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 31, 2005

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### FARMERS TAKE CLASSES TO MINIMIZE SMOKE IMPACT ON NEIGHBORS

#### ISDA, IDAHO FARM BUREAU, GRAIN PRODUCERS TEAM UP TO OFFER COURSES

(BOISE) Southern Idaho farmers who burn their fields will learn this month how to keep field burns from affecting their neighbors.

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture, Idaho Farm Bureau and the Idaho Grain Producers Association are teaming up to host eight smoke management training sessions across southern Idaho.

"We want to be good neighbors, so it's important that we provide the agriculture community the tools to be good stewards of the land while understanding the affects smoke may have on nearby residents," Idaho State Department of Agriculture Director Pat Takasugi said. "These classes will help farmers make good decisions as they determine when and how they should conduct a burn."

Takasugi noted that a concerted effort by the department and farmers to manage field burns in the northern part of the state has resulted in an 82 percent drop in the number of complaints regarding field burning in the last two years.

Under the state's smoke management program, growers register their fields, and farmers are encouraged to take the training to learn how the program works, how to properly burn their fields and work with the department in an effort to help minimize the effect of smoke on our farm community neighbors.

Trainings are scheduled as follows:

#### **Monday, June 13**

- o 8 a.m. at the Fruitland Community Center, 209 S. Iowa (Turn north on Iowa at the school district office; the community center is directly behind), Fruitland
- o 7 p.m. at the Canyon County Farm Bureau board room, 4122 E. Cleveland Blvd., Caldwell

#### **Tuesday, June 14**

- o 8 a.m. at the Twin Falls County Farm Bureau board room, 2732 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls.

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- 7 p.m. at the Mini-Cassia Farm Bureau board room, 444 E. 5<sup>th</sup> N., Burley.

### **Wednesday, June 15**

- 8 a.m. at the Bingham County Farm Bureau board room, 124 N. Oak, Blackfoot
- 7 p.m. at the Franklin County Farm Bureau board room, 33 S. 1<sup>st</sup> East, Preston

### **Thursday, June 16**

- 8 a.m. at the Bonneville County Farm Bureau board room, 1655 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls
- 7 p.m. at the Madison County Farm Bureau board room, 1116 Bond Ave., Rexburg

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